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To: Examiner Scott L. Jarrett
US Patent Office

Art Unit: 3623

Application Control Number 09/929,412

Confirmation number 9132

Date: September 18, 2006

Fax Phone Number: (571) 273-8300

From Norman Ken Ouchi

Attached are a discussion and Amended Claims in response to USPTO Office
Action mailed June 20, 2006.

Eight pages plus this cover sheet

The inventor sincerely appreciates the thorough examination and feedback by the
examiner.

Thank you.

Handwritten signature of Norman Ken Ouchi, dated 9/18/06.

Norman Ken Ouchi
Phone 408-757-5862

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Response to USPTO Office Action Mailed 6/20/06

Examiner: Scott L. Jarrett

Art Unit: 3623

Title: Adaptive Workflow Route

Application Number: 09/929,412

Inventor: Norman Ken Ouchi

Date: September 18, 2006

Action is non-Final

Claims 37, 40-45, 47-51, and 53-59 are pending and rejected.

Discussion

The present invention is different from eFlow and the prior art, performs a useful function, and the level of detail in the specification and figures is sufficient for implementation by one of ordinary skill.

1) eFlow is a workflow that includes a toolkit for use by programmers to add functions. eFlow does not implement the present invention nor describe a possible implementation using eFlow. eFlow does not provide an "out of the box" standard function for a route step and screen for an active route that provides selection of a route step from a list of a priori defined route steps such that the selected route step is dynamically included as a route step in the active route. Given the present disclosure, it may be possible to PROGRAM eFlow or add code to implement the present invention but this is possible for any workflow. The applicant does not argue that the prior art adaptive workflow require the specification at design time of all potential routes. The applicant acknowledges the prior art provides design capabilities to adapt a route while active.

The applicant argues that the design capabilities of the prior art are TOO complex and not suitable for a large class of users and that the simpler adaptive workflow capability of the present invention provides capabilities more suited to these users.

Reference Figures 4 and 5 for the discussion. Sections [0025], [0027], [0028], and [0036] of the specification provide additional detail. The present invention is

Application Number 09/929,412 N. K. Ouchi Page 1 of 8 Dated 9/18/2006